



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE: **B-0**

June 16, 2005

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**PROPOSED 2005 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES ELECTRICAL CODE
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS
3 VOTES**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Introduce, waive reading, and schedule a public hearing regarding the enclosed Ordinance which amends Title 27 – Electrical Code of the Los Angeles County Code by adopting by reference portions of the 2004 California Electrical Code with certain changes and modifications and by making other revisions thereto.

AFTER THE PUBLIC HEARING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the changes and modifications to the 2004 California Electrical Code, apart from administrative revisions, are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions, as detailed in the Ordinance and in Enclosure A of this Board letter.
2. Find that the proposed Ordinance is exempt under the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

3. Adopt the Ordinance.
4. Direct Public Works to file the adopted Ordinance containing the Board's findings with the California Building Standards Commission.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The California Health and Safety Code requires that the County adopt and enforce the same building standards as are contained in the most recent edition of the California Building Standards Code, which includes the California Electrical Code, with the exception that the County may establish more restrictive building standards reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions.

The State has recently published the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code.

The enclosed Ordinance, when adopted, will update Title 27 – Electrical Code of the Los Angeles County Code to incorporate the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code, with certain changes and modifications necessitated by local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The adoption of the County's Electrical Code provides minimum construction and property maintenance standards that promote the health and welfare of the general public throughout our jurisdiction. By incorporating the most up-to-date electrical safety standards, the County will be able to ensure that its Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence, Organizational Effectiveness, Workforce Excellence, and Children and Families' Well-Being are fully addressed.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be minimal impact on expenditures to Public Works for training its personnel. All associated costs, including these training costs and the printing of the proposed Code, are funded from construction-related permit and plan review revenues.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Health and Safety Code Section 17958 requires the County to adopt ordinances which impose the same requirements as are contained in the most recent edition of the California Building Standards Code, of which the California Electrical Code is one part. However, Health and Safety Code Sections 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 authorize the County to make changes or modifications to these requirements to establish more restrictive standards, when such changes or modifications are reasonably necessary because of local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions.

The enclosed Ordinance, prepared by County Counsel, will amend Title 27 to incorporate the most recent edition of the California Electrical Code. The Ordinance also makes changes and modifications to certain portions of the California Electrical Code to reflect the most critical and necessary County modifications required because of local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions. The amendments have been prepared by Public Works in accordance with Sections 17958, 17958.5, 17958.7, and 18941.5 of the California Health and Safety Code and the policy of your Board, with the findings clearly delineated for the proposed amendment in a chart which is set forth in the proposed Ordinance and in Enclosure A of this Board letter. The Ordinance also contains various administrative changes which do not require special local findings.

The last update to Title 27 was approved by your Board on September 24, 2002.

Before adopting any nonadministrative amendments to the California Electrical Code, the Board must make findings that such amendments are needed because of local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions.

In accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 50022.3, the Board must schedule a public hearing after the first reading of the title of the adopting Ordinance. Notices of the hearing are required to be published pursuant to Government Code Section 6066. A copy of the California Electrical Code must be on file with the Clerk of the Board at least 15 days preceding the hearing and made available for public inspection.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Adoption of this Ordinance, which adopts the California Electrical Code by reference with revisions, is exempt under the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Other departments embarking on construction projects will be required to comply with the provisions of this Ordinance if applications for permits to begin construction are submitted on or after the effective date of this Ordinance.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval of the enclosed Ordinance, the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors is requested to return a conformed copy of the Ordinance and a copy of the adopted Board letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,

DONALD L. WOLFE
Acting Director of Public Works

RT:ll

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Enc. 4

cc: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel
Executive Office

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 27 (ELECTRICAL CODE)
OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on July 26, 2005, at 9:30 a.m. the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles will conduct a public hearing regarding the adoption of ordinance amending Title 27 (Electrical Code) of the Los Angeles County Code.

The proposed ordinance will amend Title 27 (Electrical Code) of the Los Angeles County Code by repealing the provisions contained in this Title which had incorporated the portions of the 2001 Edition of the California Electrical Code, by reference and replacing them with provisions incorporating, by reference, portions of the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code, published by the California Building Standards Commission, with certain changes and modifications.

Copies of the 2004 Edition of the California Electrical Code, published by the California Building Standards Commission, are on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and are open to public inspection.

Notice is further given that changes to Title 27 of the Los Angeles County Code (Electrical Code) resulting from the adoption of the ordinance include:

- Various seismic requirements based on local geologic conditions.
- Reinstating of current County amendments.
- Various other editorial changes.

Notice is further given that at the conclusion of the hearing, the Board of Supervisors may decline to adopt the proposed amendments or it may make further amendments which are justified by the evidence presented and warranted by local climatic, geologic, and/or topographic conditions.

If you do not understand this notice or need more information, please call (626) 458-6372. Sí no entiende está noticia o sí necesita más información, por favor llame a este número (626) 458-6372.

By the order of the Board of Supervisors

DATED this _____ day of _____, 2005.